



258  
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# THE GREAT OCTOBER REVOLUTION PAVES THE WAY FOR THE LIBERATION OF THE PEOPLE

HO CHI MINH

Article written for the *Pravda* on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Great October Revolution

**T**OGETHER with the people of the Soviet Union and the working people throughout the world, the Vietnamese people are commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Great Russian October Revolution with great enthusiasm.

In the high tide of their current resistance to U.S. aggression, for national salvation, being firmly determined to defeat the U.S. aggressors and build socialism successfully in their country, the Vietnamese people, in gratitude and confidence, enthusiastically turn their thoughts to the Soviet Union, native land of the great Lenin and the glorious October Revolution.

Like the radiant sun, the October Revolution has illumined all the five continents, awakening millions and millions of oppressed and exploited men and women all over the earth. Never before in human history has there been a revolution with so great and so deep a significance.

The October Revolution was the first victory for Marxism and Leninist theories in a big country, the Soviet Union, which covers one-sixth of the globe. It was the greatest victory of all time for the working people and the oppressed nations, under the leadership of the working class and its vanguard, the Bolshevik Party. The October Revolution used revolutionary violence to overthrow the capitalist class and the feudal landlords, to establish the working people's power and build a completely new society, a society without exploitation of man by man.

The October Revolution paved the way for the liberation of the peoples and the whole mankind, ushering in a new era of history, the era of transition from capitalism to socialism on a world scale.

Of the historical significance of the October Revolution, Lenin said: "...We have a right to be and are proud of the fact that to us has fallen the good fortune to begin the erection of a Soviet state, and thereby to usher in a new era in world history, the era of the rule of a new class, a class which is oppressed in every capitalist country but which everywhere is marching forward towards a new life, towards victory over the bourgeoisie, towards the dictatorship of the proletariat—and towards the emancipation of mankind from the yoke of capital and from imperialist wars." (1)

The world situation in the past 50 years has eloquently substantiated that prediction full of genius of Lenin. In fact, a great many tremendous revolutionary changes have taken place in the world since the October Revolution.

The Soviet Union, the first State with a proletarian dictatorship, has proved her extraordinary strength. Right in the first days of her existence, she not only crushed the counter-revolutionaries in the country but also defeated the armed intervention by 14 imperialist countries, and less than 30 years later completely defeated the German-Italian-Japanese fascists. Not only

did she defend the Soviet State but also contributed greatly to the liberation of many other countries, thus saving mankind from the yoke of fascism.

In spite of heavy devastation left by the war and unmeasurable suffering and sacrifice (20 million Soviet people were killed, 1,710 towns reduced to ruins and more than 30,000 factories wholly or partly destroyed), thanks to the correct leadership of the Party and the gigantic efforts of the entire people, and the matchless valour of their struggle, the Soviet Union within a few years healed the wounds of war, continued the successful building of socialism and has now advanced to the stage of laying the material and technical foundations of communism. Today the Soviet Union has become a great industrial power with a science and technology ranking among the most modern in the world. She was the first country to open the way to the conquest of the cosmos.

After the Russian October Revolution, the victory of the Chinese Revolution was also an event of tremendous international significance. That was a new, great victory of Marxism-Leninism in a semi-colonial and semi-feudal country of 700 million people led by the Chinese Communist Party. In less than 20 years, from a backward agricultural country heavily oppressed and exploited by foreign imperialists and domestic compradore capitalists

(Continued page 2)

## BRILLIANT SUCCESSES OF SOUTH VIET NAM PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMED FORCES DURING THE FIVE - MONTH 1967 SUMMER - AUTUMN CAMPAIGN

★ **143,000** Enemies (Including **68,900** G.I.s and Satellite Troops) Put out of Action

★ **1,400** Planes and Helicopters Downed, Destroyed or Damaged ○ **3,100** Military Vehicles (Including over **1,200** Tanks and Armoured Cars) Destroyed ○ **107** Warships and Motor-Boats Sunk or Damaged ○ **50** Townships, Provincial Capitals and District Towns, Military Sectors and Sub-Sectors Attacked ○ **180** Positions Razed

(Page 8)

# THE GREAT REPRESSION RATES THE WAY FOR THE LIBERATION OF THE PEOPLES

(Continued from page 1)

and feudal landlords, China wrested back and consolidated her national independence. She built socialism and has today become a big power with a modern industry, developed agriculture and advanced science and technology.

The victories of the national liberation revolutions and socialist revolutions in Poland, Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Rumania, Czechoslovakia, Albania, Mongolia, Korea, Cuba and Viet Nam are also of enormous historical significance.

With all these victories, a world socialist system has been formed, stretching from Central Europe to South-East Asia and including the first socialist outpost in Latin America. The socialist camp was founded and has grown in strength with every passing day. It is the factor determining the development of the world revolution and the bright future of mankind.

Inspired and assisted by the Russian October Revolution and the revolutions in the socialist countries in general, the revolutionary movements of the working class in the capitalist countries and the national liberation movements in the underdeveloped countries are gaining power and developing on an unprecedented scale. Everywhere in Asia, Africa and Latin America, the national liberation movement is surging up like a tidal wave, disintegrating fragment by fragment the colonial system of imperialism, and clearing the way for hundreds of millions to throw off the fetters of slavery and advance toward independence and freedom.

The force of the socialist camp, the movement of struggle of the working class in the capitalist countries and the revolutionary movement for national liberation, all these revolutionary movements combining into a tremendous force that is continuously assaulting the bastion of imperialism headed by U.S. imperialism. In the present world balance of forces, the revolutionary and peace-loving forces have become stronger than the reactionary and war-mongering forces of imperialism. The force of the world revolution is on the offensive, is growing continuously and winning more and more victories. Imperialism and the other reactionary forces on the other hand, are on the defensive, weakening, annihilated defeat after defeat, and will finally be annihilated.

From being only a noble and beautiful dream of mankind, socialism and communism have become, since the Great October Revolution, a reality. It is more the Vietnamese working class and people appreciate the great services of Lenin and the October Revolution.

Before the October Revolution, prevented from seeing and hearing by the imperialist colonialists, the Vietnamese people knew nothing about Marxism and did not even hear of Lenin. With the world-shaking victory of the Great October Revolution, Marxism-Leninism gradually propagated in Viet Nam. Early 1930, the Indo-Chinese Communist Party (now the Viet Nam Workers' Party) came into existence and raised the banner of leadership of the revolution. Then a high tide of national liberation, surging up powerfully, culminated in the August Revolution Uprising (1930-1931). Since then the Vietnamese people have been on the path of the national liberation. In defiance of the colonialists' policy of bloody repression, the Vietnamese people resolutely marched forward. In August 1945, they seized the opportunity when the heroic Soviet Armed Forces defeated the German Nazis then defeated the Japanese fascists, the Indo-Chinese Communist Party led the entire people to stand up in general insurrection, seize power throughout the country, overthrow the Japanese fascists and the French colonialists and found the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. The Viet Nam August Revolution was the first victorious national people's revolution in South-East Asia. Hardly one month after the victory, the Vietnamese people have been given time to organize and strengthen their forces. The Vietnamese people, armed only with bamboo spears, had to embark on a heroic struggle of resistance against the French colonialist aggressors abetted by the U.S. imperialists, and in the end won the great victory of Dien Bien Phu, completely liberating North Viet Nam.

The 1953 Geneva Agreements were signed, formally recognizing the sacred and inviolable rights of the Vietnamese people, namely: independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity. Since 1954 the Vietnamese people have been carrying out at the same time two strategic revolutionary tasks, carry out socialist transformation and socialist construction in the North while waging a patriotic struggle to liberate the South from the yoke of U.S. imperialism. The Vietnamese people and advance towards the reunification of the country.

Under the leadership of the working class and on the ever firmer basis of the working-peasant alliance, it is necessary at each stage of the revolution to rally all the revolutionary and progressive forces into a broad front and carry out a united action under varied forms among them in order to oppose the common enemy.

In the hard struggle against the class and nation's enemy, it is necessary to use revolutionary violence to oppose counter-revolutionary violence to seize power and defend it, and, depending on concrete conditions, to adopt appropriate forms of revolutionary struggle, make a correct use of, and skillfully combine, the various forms of armed struggle.

gle and political struggle to win victory for the revolution.

It is necessary to strengthen the dictatorship of the proletariat and consolidate it continually.

After the seizure of power the foremost task of the working class is to strengthen the proletarian armed struggle in order to carry out the tasks of the revolution, radically abolish the exploitation of man by man, build the socialist production relations, build socialism and advance towards communism.

In the life-and-death struggle between the working class, the working people and the oppressors on the one hand, and the imperialists and the traitors, their henchmen—the feudal landlords and reactionary capitalists—on the other, the peoples of all countries must display a tough-going revolutionary spirit, constantly uphold the banner of revolutionary heroism, fear no hardships and sacrifices, and be determined to struggle to the end for national independence and socialism.

They must also link patriotism with proletarian internationalism in the national liberation revolution as well as in the socialist revolution. In our times, the national liberation revolution is inseparable part of the proletarian revolution on the world scale; complete victory can be won for a national liberation revolution only when it develops into socialist revolution. The victory of the struggle for the peoples for independence and freedom is inseparably associated with the active support and assistance of the socialist camp and the workers' movement in the capitalist countries.

"Workers of All Countries and Oppressed Peoples, Unite!" This sacred appeal of Lenin is still ringing in our ears, reminding us of our duty to constantly defend and strengthen the solidarity between the revolutionary forces in the common interests of the working class and people everywhere.

Above is a summary of the experience drawn from the practice of the Vietnamese revolution.

A Vietnamese proverb says: "When you drink water, remember its source." The more they drink of the humanitarianism and the love of foreign domination, the more they recall each step on the path of revolution full of sacrifices and hardships but also full of glory. The more the Vietnamese working class and people appreciate the great services of Lenin and the October Revolution.

Before the October Revolution, prevented from seeing and hearing by the imperialist colonialists, the Vietnamese people knew nothing about Marxism and did not even hear of Lenin. With the world-shaking victory of the Great October Revolution, Marxism-Leninism gradually propagated in Viet Nam. Early 1930, the Indo-Chinese Communist Party (now the Viet Nam Workers' Party) came into existence and raised the banner of leadership of the revolution. Then a high tide of national liberation, surging up powerfully, culminated in the August Revolution Uprising (1930-1931). Since then the Vietnamese people have been on the path of the national liberation. In defiance of the colonialists' policy of bloody repression, the Vietnamese people resolutely marched forward. In August 1945, they seized the opportunity when the heroic Soviet Armed Forces defeated the German Nazis then defeated the Japanese fascists, the Indo-Chinese Communist Party led the entire people to stand up in general insurrection, seize power throughout the country, overthrow the Japanese fascists and the French colonialists and found the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. The Viet Nam August Revolution was the first victorious national people's revolution in South-East Asia. Hardly one month after the victory, the Vietnamese people have been given time to organize and strengthen their forces. The Vietnamese people, armed only with bamboo spears, had to embark on a heroic struggle of resistance against the French colonialist aggressors abetted by the U.S. imperialists, and in the end won the great victory of Dien Bien Phu, completely liberating North Viet Nam.

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The socialist revolution in the North has recorded great successes. After successfully completing the land reform, the Viet Nam Workers' Party led the people to carry out socialist transformation in agriculture, handicrafts, capitalist industry and commerce and small trade, build the new production relations and abolish the exploitation of man by man. The material and technical basis of socialism was built step by step, agricultural and industrial production expanded continually and the material life of the people has been improved day by day. In the cultural field, literacy has been wiped out and education is developing.

During this period, in the South, in spite of the barbarous repression and massacres by the U.S. imperialists and the traitor puppet South Vietnamese compradors never submitted, instead continued their extremely valiant political and armed struggle in order to overthrow the U.S. tasks have defeated the "special war" of the U.S. imperialists and are defeating their "local war." A most brutal war of aggression involving more than one million troops composed of nearly 500,000 U.S. expeditionary troops and more than half a million puppet and satellite troops and equipped with thousands of aircraft, hundreds of warships, millions of tons of modern weapons and the most modern means such as toxic chemicals, gas, napalm and steel-pellet bombs. Surpassing even the incredible ferocity of the Japanese imperialists have applied everywhere their "burn all, destroy all, kill all" policy. In an attempt to wipe out the quarter in South Viet Nam, the U.S. imperialists have launched a more and more atrocious air and naval war of destruction against the northern part of the country. They have been bombing and strafing the communication lines, industrial centers, heavily populated towns, countryside, hospitals, schools, churches, pagodas and temples, dikes and dams. By means of bombing and strafing they thought they could dampen the patriotism and wreck the sacred militant solidarity of the Vietnamese people in the two zones. However, for the independence and freedom of their Fatherland, the 3 million Vietnamese, united as one man, are determined to overthrow the capitalist colonial system, determined to defeat the U.S. aggressors.

The resistance war of the Vietnamese people against U.S. aggression, for national salvation, has recorded many victories. In the South Viet Nam battlefield, in the past two dry seasons (2) alone 250,000 enemy troops were wiped out, among them 28,000 American troops. In the past two dry seasons (2) alone 250,000 enemy troops were wiped out, among them 28,000 American troops. In the past two dry seasons (2) alone 250,000 enemy troops were wiped out, among them 28,000 American troops.

In North Viet Nam, more than 2,300 U.S. planes have been shot down, more than 1,000 U.S. ships have been sunk. Obviously, the more aggressive troops the U.S. imperialists bring in, the heavier the losses they will sustain. The more the U.S. imperialists bring in, the heavier the losses they will sustain. The more the U.S. imperialists bring in, the heavier the losses they will sustain.

Why has the Vietnamese revolution won such big successes? Why will the Vietnamese people certainly defeat the much better equipped U.S. aggressors?

This is because of the correct leadership of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation. The Viet Nam Workers' Party, the Vietnamese people's revolutionary vanguard, has always striven to combine the universal truths of Marxism-Leninism to the practice of the Vietnamese revolution. The Viet Nam Workers' Party has always striven to combine the universal truths of Marxism-Leninism to the practice of the Vietnamese revolution. The Viet Nam Workers' Party has always striven to combine the universal truths of Marxism-Leninism to the practice of the Vietnamese revolution.

Our Party knows how to make use of the various forms of revolutionary struggle in accordance with the concrete situation of the movement, especially how to combine armed struggle with political struggle and struggle to wage a long and arduous and valiant people's war to defeat the aggressors.

Our Party has always educated its cadres and members and the broad masses of the population

## I TOOK PART IN THE BLACK SEA MUTINY

TON DUC THANG

(Excerpt from The October Revolution and the Viet Nam Revolution, Su That Publishing House)

N 1919, I was a sailor-worker on board a French battleship. She was ordered to head for the Black Sea and join naval units from France, Spain, Italy, and other countries. As the voyage was drawing to a close, the crew brought down the tricolor and hoisted the black flag of the revolution on a secret understanding. They mutinied to hail the victory of the October Revolution and support the Soviet State.

About 50 years ago, I took part in this mutiny of French sailors in the Black Sea.

I had known very little about Lenin and the October Revolution. But I had gradually come to know through my association with French workers, that the Russian October Revolution was carried out by workers against their exploiters and oppressors. As a worker of a colonial company and a worker, I had felt a natural sympathy for it. I was convinced that the October Revolution was the exploited and was building an equitable

in the spirit of genuine patriotism and proletarian internationalism. It has always strengthened solidarity and friendship with the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China and the other fraternal countries. Our Party maintains that we must rely on our own forces. At the same time, we must win the active support and assistance of the fraternal socialist countries and the peace and democratic peoples all over the world, including the progressive people in the United States.

Through their personal experience, the Vietnamese people are firmly convinced that in the favorable conditions of the revolution and movement in our times, any people however small, if closely united and determined to fight the correct political and military line, and enjoying the active support and assistance of the socialist camp and the revolutionary people in the world, certainly can defeat any imperialist aggressor, including U.S. imperialism—the ringleader of imperialism.

FOLLOWING the path charted by the great Lenin, the path of the October Revolution, the Vietnamese people have won tremendous victories. It is actually for this reason that their attachment for, and gratitude to, the glorious October Revolution, the great Lenin and the Soviet people are very profound.

The Vietnamese people always bear in mind that their successes are inseparable from the assistance of the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China and the other fraternal socialist countries, from the active support of the whole progressive mankind.

On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the glorious October Revolution, on behalf of the entire Vietnamese people, I express profound gratitude to the Party of Lenin and the fraternal Soviet people for their wholehearted assistance to our people's anti-U.S. resistance for national salvation.

In the common joy of the working class, the working people and all oppressed peoples in the world in celebrating the 50th anniversary of the great October Revolution, the Vietnamese people wish that the fraternal Soviet people will score more brilliant achievements in the creation of communism and the technical basis of communism and constantly develop their great role in the struggle of the world's people against imperialism, for peace, national independence, democracy and socialism.

— Long live Marxism-Leninism!

— Long live the fraternal solidarity between the Vietnamese and the Soviet people!

— Long live the fraternal solidarity in the great family of the socialist countries and the international communist movement!

(1) V.I. Lenin, Articles and Speeches on Anniversaries of the October Revolution, Foreign Languages Publishing House, Moscow, 1959, p. 68.  
(2) The dry season lasts 7 months from October to late April the next year.

PRESIDENT NGUYEN HUU THO'S LETTER TO PRESIDENT HO CHI MINH

## THE SOUTH VIET NAM ARMED FORCES AND PEOPLE ARE RESOLVED TO HIT BACK FIVE OR TEN TIMES HARDER TO AVENGE THEIR HANOI COUNTRYMEN

GIAP PHONG Press Agency has released a letter of thanks from President Nguyen Huu Tho to President Ho Chi Minh. Full text of the letter is given below.

"Respected President HO CHI MINH!

"Your letter welcoming the N.F.L.'s Political Programme reached us at a time when the South Viet Nam people and armed forces were, after their Winter-Spring big successes, experiencing a most victorious Summer - Autumn attacks on the enemy.

"It deeply moved every one of us. It instilled boundless enthusiasm and firm confidence into the South Vietnamese people from the mountain areas to the delta, from the countryside to the urban areas, firing them to march forward with the resolve to bring about U.S. resistance for national salvation to complete victory.

"With their deepest and most exalted sentiments, the South Viet Nam armed forces and people as a whole and the N.F.L. Central Committee wish to express boundless gratitude to you—esteemed leader of the nation—who are daily and hourly following the situation in South Viet Nam and showing the most considerate solicitude for its development so that South Viet Nam can best fulfil its glorious historic task.

"Bringing into full play the traditional heroic and great solidarity of our nation, the South Viet Nam armed forces and people pledge themselves to overcome all difficulties and hardships to completely defeat the U.S. aggressors and wrest back independence and freedom.

"No matter to what extent the stubborn, cunning and reckless U.S. aggressors may escalate and widen the war, their bombs and shells decidedly cannot intimidate our people, and their wily words cannot deceive them.

"Most recently the U.S. aggressors frenziedly attacked Hanoi capital, the heart of our country, perpetrating utterly savage crimes.

"Swearing not to live under the same sky with the U.S. aggressors and their flunkies, the South Viet Nam armed forces and people are determined to hit back five or ten times harder to avenge the compatriots in the capital city and the rest of the country.

"In their endeavors to carry out the N.F.L.'s Political Programme, and with the wholehearted support and assistance of their Northern kith and kin, and the warm encouragement and assistance of their brothers and friends in all continents including the progressive American people, the South Viet Nam armed forces and people are resolved to march forward and completely defeat the million-U.S. satellite and puppet troops so as to liberate the South, defend the North, and achieve the peaceful reunification of the Fatherland.

"All the people, fighters and cadres in South Viet Nam and the N.F.L. Committee of the N.F.L. wish to convey to you your most respectful and affectionate greetings, and reiterate to you their pledge to defeat completely the U.S. aggressors."

86th Viet Nam, October 27, 1967

NGUYEN HUU THO  
President of the Presidium of the South Viet Nam N.F.L.

TO THE READER.

We are aware that there is much room for improvement in the wording of our paper. We apologise for this. We are sure that you will help us to serve you more efficiently in future.

A message of the same tenor has been sent by the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam N.F.L. to the D.R.V.N. Government.

TO FOIL NEW U.S.  
WAR ESCALATION

# THESE PEOPLE RESOLVED TO STRIKE BACK

**I**N the past few days, from Hanoi up to the Viet Nam - China border and down to the Vinh Linh area, from the midlands to the Red River Delta, everywhere re-sounding victories came in quick succession. Washington brought its atrocious war to even the capital of the DRVN to challenge the resolve of a whole nation determined to defend its independence and freedom but it met with unusually powerful reply. It had had to acknowledge that its plane losses had been the heaviest (BBC, Oct. 29) since the renewal of attacks on Hanoi (Oct. 24). The Vinh Linh area, 'pounded up by U.S. bombs and shells, brought down the 3rd B-52 strategic aircraft in a well fought battle on Oct. 29. On the same day, in Hung Yen, missile, air force and other anti-aircraft units downed 3 U.S. jets, setting a new record for the province. White-haired militiamen of Thanh Hoa province knocked down another U.S. plane on Oct. 24, after having received a Military Order for the shooting down of an enemy plane previously. In the same province, a girl militia platoon of Tinh Gia district, in an independent action, also chalked up a spectacular exploit by grounding one U.S. plane. Hai Phong, Quang Ninh, Vinh Phuc and other provinces kept up an intense fire and achieved new successes in co-ordination with the defenders of Hanoi, the heart of the nation. In the five days ending Oct. 28, 35 U.S. planes fell on streets and ricefields, inside and outside the city, and many pilots were captured. While the deadly fire spit by guns of

all calibers at different altitudes set U.S. planes ablaze in the sky over the nation's nerve centre, production and bustling activities in the city were paced up in a confident mood. Although they were the main targets for U.S. bombers, yet the workers of Factory V, held firm to their positions and kept operating the machines at the usual rhythm under enemy bombing.

At Village X, of Gia Lam district on the outskirts of Hanoi, on an average, 4 families received an explosive bomb and each habitant, 8 steel-pellet bombs. Yet the harvesting of the all-time record autumn rice crop continued without let-up. At night, Hanoi was still flooded with electric light. By all ways and means, it still maintained communications with the rest of the country. Meanwhile, active preparations were under way for the celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the Great October Revolution. Best sellers by Gorki and spirited poems by Mayakovsky were available while classical films by Eisenstein were on in various cinemas.

Staunch and valiant Hanoi, together with the rest of the country, has frustrated the new U.S. escalation, in defiance of wanton attacks with steel-pellet bombs and rockets on the most crowded quarters of the city, thus shattering to the ground what has been described as improvements on air strike techniques. From Washington, bad words have uttered after this criminal escalation. There are "virtually no more targets of important military significance" (state-

ment from M. Taylor, special advisor to President Johnson, quoted by AFP on Oct. 25, 1967). The Yankees have now publicly spoken out their sinister designs which consist in stepping up air strikes at residential areas in Hanoi and Hai Phong. They are out to put "maximum pressure" on the Vietnamese people in the hope of compelling them to come to the conference table and accept terms to the U.S. advantage. They still intend to seek a military victory while they shamelessly keep ringing the changes on their discredited "peace talks". They try to gain the initiative in their air war over North Viet Nam while they are in dire straits in the ground war in the South. This had been admitted with bitterness by E. Wheeler, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. To all intents and purposes, they can in no way gain the initiative of any kind in North Viet Nam's air space, just as they can never succeed in weakening the resistance of the South Vietnamese people. After a "rainy-season strategic defensive" in which they were battered from all sides, they are now entering a hopeless dry season. They are talking about disasters at Con Tien, on Highway No. 9, in Quang Tri, in the Sa Thay River area, and on the Western High Plateau. While they were dealing eventual attacks on the heart of Saigon, for 24 hours running on Oct. 26, the People's Liberation Armed Forces (P.L.A.F.) raided 26 district towns, provincial capitals, airfields, base camps and military headquarters in Ben Tre, Chau Doc, Sa Dec and My Tho, meanwhile, in

the Plain of Reeds, as acknowledged for the first time, Western news agencies, whole battalions of G.I.s were completely destroyed (French National Radio, Oct. 21). Recently, to punish the new U.S. escalation against Hanoi the P.L.A.F. on Oct. 20 wiped out a multi-battalion U.S. puppet combat group stationed at Loc Ninh (120km north of Saigon).

The higher they escalate the war, the more the Washington rulers come to realize that they can by no means conquer a nation determined to defend its independence. Although they are not yet reconciled to their defeats, they are deeper than ever before in a predicament and blind alley. President Johnson himself has admitted that the U.S. aggressors "are riding the tiger" in their desperate pursuit of war (AP, Oct. 17).

The disastrous defeats on various South Viet Nam battlefields and the unjust political line have confronted the U.S. Government with an unprecedented protest campaign by the American people. This protest has been so strong that the White House has to resort to tear-gas in a crack-down on the demonstrations in Washington. Johnson finds himself more isolated under the roof of the White House which is falling down, as the American press has put it. Because of the heavy setbacks in Viet Nam, the mood is more and more a withdrawal. The hope to extend the U.S. frontier to the 17th parallel has turned out to be perfectly ludicrous. An American paper has begun to talk about a new frontline in Australia.

How atrocious its escalations may be, Washington will only confront an energetic protest at home and in the outside world. We firmly believe that the crimes the U.S. is perpetrating on the Vietnamese soil will only strengthen the solidarity of the peoples of the socialist countries and peace-lovers round the world with our people and their support for our just struggle. Over the past years, the Vietnamese people have never budged an inch in the face of the U.S. war of aggression. With stronger hatred for the enemy, with greater confidence and enthusiasm, they are determined to strike even harder and win even greater victories to foil U.S. escalation. It is a certainty that the U.S. aggressors' moves will meet with appropriate force in North Viet Nam just as they will be hardest hit in the South.

Since October 24, 1967, on orders of the U.S. Government, U.S. aircraft have been launching repeated attacks on Hanoi, capital of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. They have dropped bombs of various kinds and fired missiles on the centre of the city and its suburbs. Particularly barbarous is that they have released steel-pellet bombs on many of the most populated streets. Within the past few days, U.S. air raiders have killed or wounded more than 200 civilians and burned or destroyed more than 150 houses.

This is an extremely serious step of "escalation" taken by the U.S. in its war of destruction against the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam in an attempt to extricate itself from its quagmire and stalemate in South Viet Nam.

Recently, U.S. President Johnson again raised a rallying cry about the U.S. "readiness to negotiate." It is clear, however, that this is but a manoeuvre to cover up the fact that the U.S. is trying hard to intensify and widen its aggressive war against Viet Nam.

With regard to South Viet Nam, the U.S. has not only sent thousands more troops, aircraft and warships, but also pressed the Saigon puppet administration and U.S. satellite governments in Australia, Thailand, New Zealand and South Korea to supply more mercenaries to the U.S. In North Viet Nam, U.S. aircraft have been repeatedly raiding Hai Phong in the past two months, and, together with artillery, continually striding the

## STATEMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM ON U.S. REPEATED AIR RAIDS AGAINST HANOI

Demilitarized Zone. Now again they are launching frenzied attacks on Hanoi capital.

This utterly dangerous escalation and the new heinous crimes of the U.S. constitute a brazen challenge to the people of all countries and world public opinion including public opinion in the United States who are resolutely demanding that the U.S. stop unconditionally its bombing of North Viet Nam and withdraw all its troops from South Viet Nam.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam strongly denounces to world public opinion the crimes perpetrated by the U.S. government in its raids on Hanoi, and demands that the U.S. stop unconditionally and definitively its bombing and all other acts of war against the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, end its war of aggression in Viet Nam, withdraw all troops of the U.S. and its satellites from South Viet Nam, let South Vietnamese people settle themselves their own internal affairs, strictly respect the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Viet Nam as recognized by the Geneva Agreements of 1954.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam calls on the governments and people of the fraternal socialist countries, the governments and people of other countries, all organs and people who stand for peace, freedom and justice to raise strong protests and take firm actions to stay the hands of the U.S. aggressors in Viet Nam.

The U.S. aggressors' attacks on Hanoi have further increased the

hatred of the Vietnamese people and stiffened their determination to fight. The armed forces and people of Hanoi have given the aggressors relevant replies, successively blasted down many aircraft and captured many U.S. pilots. The armed forces and people in both North and South Viet Nam are rushing forward still more eagerly, turning to account their position in which they hold the initiative and take the offensive, and dealing the enemy heavy and accurate blows at their most vital points in order to make them pay for their crimes against the Hanoi population.

The present extremely serious escalation itself has thrown a stronger light in the U.S. imperialist's failure and stalemate in their war of aggression in Viet Nam, especially in South Viet Nam. The U.S. aggressors' moves and the duplicity of their statements. They will meet with still heavier defeats on the Viet Nam battlefield, in the international arena and right in the United States.

More enthusiastic and confident than ever the Vietnamese people are strengthening their determination to fight and to win, to persevere in their protracted and heroic but certainly victorious fight for their sacred national rights and for the fulfilment of their lofty internationalist duties towards the world's peoples, thus actively contributing to the cause of peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

Hanoi, October 30, 1967.

### RECENT U.S. AIR RAIDS ON HANOI

# HANOI HANOI FIGHT AN

### NORTH VIET NAM

### HANOI:

**35 U.S. Planes  
Downed in 5  
Days (Oct. 24-28)**

### VINH LINH:

**The 3rd B.52  
Brought Down  
on Oct. 29**

**Up to Nov. 3, 1967  
2,487  
U.S. AIRCRAFT  
SHOT DOWN**

**O**n October 24, Johnson sent his aircraft on missions over Hanoi in a new escalation which lasted 5 days on end. Steel-pellet bombs were dropped on the most populated area of Hanoi, the quarter near the Hoa Kiem Lake and the Red River. The city's defenders victoriously replied, setting a record: 35 U.S. super-jets fell dust and many pilots were captured.

Following are some snapshots of fighting Hanoi:

### OCT. 24, IN NORTHERN HANOI

18.28 hours. Over 30 enemy planes emerging from masses of clouds swoop over the northern suburbs of Hanoi. Explosive and steel-pellet bombs rain. The pirates have not escaped our eyes. Their first wave is immediately welcomed by brisk fire. Well visible flashes in the sky and smoke balls provoked by shell explosions prove that the firing is well aimed and grouped around enemy flights. Gigantic, roiling smoke left in the sky by the flashing passage of missiles follow head-first the space far beyond the clouds which overcast a part of the sky. The first of the Phantom jets and the Thunderchiefs... Far

minutes, two Phantoms plummet earthward, sending up a mushroom of black smoke.

18.48 hours, 3rd attack. A-A Company 54 brings down one Thunderchief.

18.00 hours, new attack. A surface 1.5-air missile leaves its ramp in a swirl of dust and smoke and a deafening explosion, whizzes up towards an enemy flight one of the air intruders falls like a torch while the remainder heat for the sea in panic, leaving behind traces of smoke.

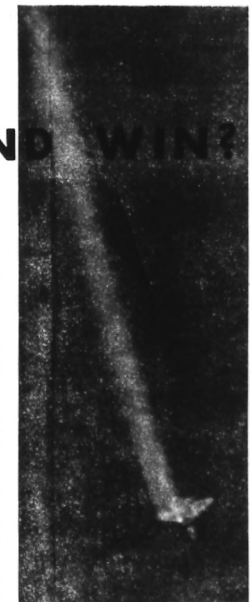
### TWENTY-SIX BULLETS FOR A PHANTOM

**A**T Textile Factory V, men of the worker self-defence unit have just been eating lunch. At 10.45 hours, signal agent Nuan - a female comrade of the latrine post slung on the shoulder, gives

the warning: "Look out! 6 enemy planes are heading for Hanoi." The dining-hall is empty. The workers rush to their combat position. The enemy planes nose-dive into a village in proximity the emplacements of the unit where are living most of the workers of the factory. All guns are at the ready. "Sight the lead plane! Attention! Fire!" a communist section leader Ngo. Two short bursts follow. A Phantom, jetting out a white trail, does not pull up any longer and falls. The remainder of the groves of a village on the other side of the river with the terror-explosion balance-sheet: 26 bullets for a plane!

### VILLAGE WATCH-TOWER

**T**he fighter-bombers pass within the range of light infantry weapons only for a brief second. To detect the soonest possible the plane to be brought down therefore becomes for our militiamen a life-and-death race. The victory. It is essential to



a guerrilla fighter fallen in the field of honour during the Anti-French Resistance, with minute detail, informs her section leaders and co-villagers of the enemy manoeuvres.

### CAPTURE OF A U.S. PILOT

**F**LAKES open up from all sides. The earth quakes under the bombing. Mine Quyen, in her early forties, a red band (insignia of the public order service during alerts) on her left arm, with an anti-shrapnel straw hat on her head, holds a ball of small cord in hand, on duty at a place in Gia Thy village, on the left bank of the Red River. Overhead, a plane marked with the U.S. star force white star blazes

out a trail of black smoke, ducks in a series of somersaults and nose-dives, in flames. Something erupts from the falling plane. A red white chute bursts open in the air.

"Hi, my girls!" shouts Mine Quyen to a team of young women peasants caught by the alert while doing earthwork there.

"Get him, that air pirate!"

Everybody rushes out of the village. The Yank has touched the ground, and struggling with the strings of his parachute. While from all directions people, men, women, adults, the ones armed with rifles, some with sticks, knives, spades etc., the American succeeds in rising to his feet. He trembles visibly in all his limbs at the sight of people converging on him. In a mechanical manner, he puts

his hand at his pistol hung to the belt. Bang! A shot in the air fired by Uyen, a village guerrilla, makes him reel, bend his knees and raise his hands. More alert than her "girls", Mine Quyen is the first to jump on the U.S. Navy Lieut. Commander, who weighs about 100 kilos and is probably versed in all modern aviation techniques. With a trick of the trade, the "super-man" is disarmed, and surrounded by the young women peasants who expertly snatch off the radio-signal set lodged in one of the innumerable pockets of the flying suit.

### WATER AND FISH

**T**he battle rages throughout most of the afternoon.

(Continued page 7)

**PHOTOS:**  
Self-defence unit of Factory X, on the look-out (Left)

One of the ten U.S. planes brought down over Hanoi on Oct. 28, 1967 (Centre)

Serving the fighters on the battleground (Right)



# HOW DID HANOIANS FIGHT AND WIN?

(Continued from page 5)



Our fighter-bombers in combat readiness

In an A-A unit, everybody is at his combat post, even the cooks. Seeing that, the women of village B, dispatch volunteers to prepare the soldiers' meals. The two soldiers appointed to help this unit soon organize a collection among their neighbors. In a few moments, rice, green vegetables, fish and eggs have been gathered and a copious meal is soon ready for the combatants. During a pause, other teams of women bring hot tea to the

servants always present at their batteries.

## IN THE STRICKEN QUARTERS

ON OCT. 25, the midday alert seems to draw to a close; the few enemy planes which have been left to hit the heart of the city have been chased away after losing two. Van, head of a block of houses, makes a tour of his street—desert at this moment—which constitutes

Block no located in the very heart of a very crowded quarter. He is pleased to see that everybody strictly abides by the civil defense rules. All of a sudden, a strict whistling is heard, followed immediately by a violent deflagration which sends him into a gutter. Rising violently to his feet again, his eyes blinded by the dust, Van understands that the cowardly bandits have preferred to fire their rockets from a long distance rather than venturing in the airspace over Hanoi. He quickly observes that a row of houses has been blasted by the explosion. Jumping over the branches of a tree which lies on the ground, cut down by the fragments Van pulls out of a half-caved-in apartment a 19-year-old young girl horribly mutilated.

Other persons have arrived at the entrances of the shelters where many people remain stranded. In an attempt to assist the wounded first-aid and all care are removed, and all blocked persons pushed out. These jobs have been facilitated because Van knows at his finger-tips the sites of the shelters and shelters of all the houses in his block. Without waiting until the all-clear goes, members of the militia brigades set

out to recuperate the property of the stricken families and draw up the inventory before returning it to its owners. An C.B.U. has just been released by an American plane. Duyen, a member of the civil defense, seeing that a foxhole still remains uncovered, jumps out of his trench and puts the concrete lid in its place as its occupants—a young mother and her child—cannot do it. Before he can return to his shelter, the first steel-pellet bombs explode, inflicting several wounds on him. Duyen still finds enough strength to run towards a house on fire and to thank the soldiers for the exact site of the shelter in which the dwellers must have taken refuge. On the stretcher Duyen hands over his duty to his assistant before being evacuated.

## AN 18-HOUR JOB DONE IN 9 HOURS

THE Long Bien Bridge spanning the Red River is again rendered unusable, but for long, many river crossings have been made available, and others are under construction. Company 312 of "young volunteers for the anti-U.S. fight for national salvation" undertakes to build a replacement in 18 hours, what normally is already a record. Everybody tries to devise the most ingenious and best labour saving means to tide over difficulties. Waitresses from refreshment houses and restaurants in the nearby quarter take the initiative in pushing in their own carriages and sell the workers beer, coffee, ice cream, cakes, fruit juice etc. Amateur artists also come to give performances... In an irrepressible impetus, our boys have finished their work in 9 hours, half the scheduled time.

Pontoon bridges re-link the two banks of the river. Furthermore motor ferries boats assure the crossing. All means are put into operation to ensure the traffic. Enemy attempts, though extremely costly, to paralyze Hanoi by bombing the Long Bien Bridge remain ineffective.

At the "Viet Nam—German Democratic Republic" Hospital where difficult cases

## RESCUE OF THE WOUNDED

STEEL-pellet bombs have wounded children near Factory 6. The woman worker Dief, first-aid agent of the self-defence unit, courageously dashes towards the victims, carries them one after another out of the area rendered dangerous by the presence of many delayed-action bombs.

At the Hoa Kiem district hospital, as soon as the air raid red is signalled, the personnel is in full force, each at his post. After the first bomb explosion, mobile teams immediately rush to the scenes to assist the nurses and find medicines in various blocks in administering first aid proceeding with a first selection of the wounded. Operation rooms function without interruption far into the night; and so do the laboratories and administrative services, because every minute gained is precious. Blood donors crowd the waiting room.

At the "Viet Nam—German Democratic Republic" Hospital where difficult cases

field, especially since their crashing defeat in the dry season of 1966-1967. The puppet rulers put on stepped up even more intensively following the visit to the U.S. by the U.S. Defence Secretary McNamara during which he straightforwardly blamed the Saigon puppets for failing to draft all the young men in the North into the mercenary army of the U.S.

The "mobilization" was ordered at this juncture to the some semblance of power to the puppet clique. Also to this end, during the inauguration of the puppet Nguyen Van Thieu repeated again and again that his and say things that embarrass the Johnson Administration. The President is in trouble, a bomb scare. You cannot afford to alienate the Americans.

According to *The Observer* on October 27 said: "Hanoi proposed pause is not much different [from what Washington proposed earlier]... it is really just a political move to make domestic and international resources from the U.S. and its puppet suffice to expose the nature of the puppet regime staged in Saigon. The mobilization of more manpower and material resources from the U.S. and its puppet suffice to expose the nature of the puppet regime staged in Saigon. The mobilization of more manpower and material resources from the U.S. and its puppet suffice to expose the nature of the puppet regime staged in Saigon."

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A Hanoi missile unit

VIENT NAM COURIER

# PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMED FORCES WIN REPEATED VICTORIES

THU DAU MOT: 3 U.S. BATTALIONS AND 4 PUPPET COMPANIES WIPED OUT AT LOC NINH (October 29 and 30)

EARLY on October 29, the People's Liberation Armed Forces of the South (P.L.A.F.—E.D.) have fiercely attacked the enemy in the district town of Loc Ninh, which they held from the day and, together with the population, held a meeting to hail this victory. *Phong Press Agency* reported.

The attack resulted in the loss of a company, a platoon, and one "pacification" team completely wiped out; 6 aircraft shot down or destroyed on the ground; 2 ammunition dumps demolished. Nearly 200 guns and a large quantity of military equipment were captured.

Before the midnight of October 30, the P.L.A.F. finished a multi-battalion U.S. puppet combat group which at the Loc Ninh airfield and the area east of it. After 3 hours of brisk fighting, the P.L.A.F. held the battlefield, seized the enemy's weapons and searched for enemy remnants till dawn. In co-ordination with the infantry, the P.L.A.F. artillery pounded the command and control centre and the U.S. position around the Loc Ninh airfield.

All told, one American infantry battalion, one American artillery battalion, one American tank battalion, one American puppet Division, 2 Regiment puppet command units trained and commanded by the U.S. aggressors, were wiped out.

## SAIGON—INDEPENDENCE PALACE" POUNDED DURING A RECEPTION TO FETE THIEU-KY'S "INAUGURATION"

THE South Viet Nam P.L.A.F. in the night of Oct. 31 lobbed mortar shells on Saigon's "Independence Palace" just as U.S. Vice-President Hubert Humphrey had stepped inside to sign a reception to fete Thieu and Ky's "inauguration," according to Western reports.

Thieu and Ky's guests were tinkling, milling about and talking when the attack came. After the first shell exploded and exploded, the music stopped and the guests rushed in from one of the verandahs to the roof of a security shack along the back fence of the palace.

Humphrey reportedly gave up the plan to see an American troops parade "probably to the relief of his security guards." A secret service man assigned to guard Humphrey was shaken by the closeness of the explosion. *UPI* quoted him as saying: "I knew it was right away and it scared me still."

Following the mortar attack, Saigon's police sealed off roads leading towards the "heavily guarded" Independence Palace through the city's streets.

*UPI* recalled a similar attack by the P.L.A.F. in November last year when it reported that "U.S. Army

helicopter gunships went up and sprayed thousands of bullets into the area just outside the city of Saigon on this daring attack, *AFP* said: "The fact that shells were fired from the three-quarters of a mile from the scene served as a chilling reminder to the early morning of Oct. 26, 1967, the army and people in the Mekong Delta, a stacked 26 posts, district towns, provincial capitals, airfields and the military headquarters in Ben Tre, Chau Doc, Sa Dec and My Tho provinces, wiping

## PITALS AND AIRFIELDS ATTACKED, 460 ENEMY TROOPS PUT OUT OF ACTION IN 36 HOURS

ACCORDING to *Giai Phong Press Agency*, in 36 hours from the night of Oct. 25 to the early morning of Oct. 26, 1967, the army and people in the Mekong Delta, a stacked 26 posts, district towns, provincial capitals, airfields and the military headquarters in Ben Tre, Chau Doc, Sa Dec and My Tho provinces, wiping

MEKONG DELTA: 26 ENEMY POSTS, DISTRICT TOWNS, PROVINCIAL CA-

# SOUTH VIET NAM...

(Continued from page 8)

Regular units of the people's armed forces took the initiative in launching fierce attacks, performing high exploits along Highway 9, Quang Tri-Thua Thien, on the Western High Plateau, in the provinces of Quang Nam, Thu Dau Mot.

The regional army and guerrilla forces, now concentrated, now dispersed, attacked the enemy both in front and from behind. They struck at the Viet Cong's rear, in their reaction "agents, assisted the enemy in breaking the enemy's grip and reconnoitered the area."

People's war developed as never before, which enabled the South Viet Nam people and armed forces to overrun series of positions in a single night, put out of action whole companies, battalions or regiments in a single battle, or badly batter whole regiments in a single campaign, such as in Que Son, Gio An, Dakho, Ho Khe, Bai Son and other areas.

The People's Liberation Armed Forces hit hard, accurately and repeatedly at big bases of the enemy, like the ones at Con Tin, Doc Mieu, Dong Ha, Phu Bai, Mang Chu Lai, Pleiku, etc. They overran and controlled for several hours a series of towns, townships or provincial capitals, such as Hue, Quang Tri, An, Tam Ky, Quang Nam, Phan Thiet, Da Lat, Tay Ninh, Tan An and Cao Lanh. They spread the enemy thin to win out on various highways and waterways. Late on Highways 4, 13, 20, 14, 15 and on the Mekong, Wan Co and Ba Rai rivers.

In close co-ordination with the South Viet Nam people and armed forces, the people and armed forces in the North during this year's Summer-Autumn period marched forward with all their heroic, meritorious and daring, accurate and bold to the enemy, frustrating all their "escalation" moves.

Since the inauguration of May, they have blown to pieces nearly 650 U.S. aircraft over North Viet Nam's air space, and sank or destroyed 40 enemy warships and commando boats in the territorial waters of this part of the country. This brought, up to October 31, 2,478 the total of enemy aircraft shot down and to 77 the number of enemy warships and commando boats sunk or damaged, in North Viet Nam.

Hanoi, Hai Phong, Ha Bac, Vinh Linh, Quang Binh and other parts of North Viet Nam have won many victories after another in concert with those recorded in South Viet Nam—along Highway 9, on the Western High Plateau, and in Quang Nam, Thu Dau Mot, My Tho, etc.

ON the political front the enemy also registered ignominious setbacks and the South Viet Nam people and armed forces, glorious victories.

The U.S.-masterminded force of "presidential" and "senatorial" elections could deceive nobody. On the contrary it only stepped up the process of collapse of the Saigon puppet administration, sharpened the contradictions among the Thieu-Ky clique, and shed stronger light on the isolation and the true colours of the aggressors and traitors.

Strong as they were in their military position the South Viet Nam people launched fierce attacks on the enemy on the political plane. The people of all walks of life in enemy-controlled areas—particularly in Saigon, Da Nang, Hue and other urban areas—struggled with great perseverance and ardour, against the U.S.-puppet force of elections and for the invalidation of the election results. Popular feeling ran high among workers, students and Buddhists against the U.S. and Thieu-Ky clique, and for national rights, social welfare, democracy, freedom of creed and so on.

For their part the people in the countryside and areas around enemy bases pushed ahead their struggle to resist rearmament, to destroy enemy military bases, to burn enemy "refugees" centres and to punish cruel enemy agents, thus maintaining and enhancing their role as masters of their own destiny. Besides, the Eastern and Western Congresses of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation to adopt a Political Programme and the Second Congress of Heroes, Model Fighters and Gallant Combatants in the South Viet Nam People's Liberation Armed Forces were political events of special significance.

As the banner of great national unity and of determination to fight and defeat the U.S. aggressors, the Front's Political Programme has been inspiring, encouraging the 14 million South Vietnamese to rush forward to fulfil their historical mission, e.g. to liberate South Viet Nam, defend North Viet Nam and eventually achieve the reunification of the Fatherland.

The Second Congress of Heroes, Model Fighters and Gallant Combatants of the South Viet Nam People's Liberation Armed Forces constituted a splendid hymn to revolutionary heroism and a heartening bugle call urging the South Viet Nam people and armed forces to follow up their victories—to tide forward to destroy the aggressors and traitors and crown their national salvation struggle with a victory.

AFTER more than two years of their "local war" the U.S. imperialists and their flunkies are now in a stalemate, both strategic and tactical. The President of the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, following the greater all-sided victories of the South Viet Nam people and armed forces in Winter 1966—Spring 1967 this year's Summer-Autumn period addressed new developments very favourable to the South Viet Nam people and highly detrimental to the enemy. And, "in their local war against South Viet Nam, the U.S. imperialists are now bogged down need to aid the President's team quarrel, politically and militarily, strategically and tactically, and are quite helpless in face of unmountable difficulties both at home and abroad.

Like mortally wounded beasts the U.S. aggressors are writhing in agony. They now continue to increase their troop strength and arsenal, and frantically prepare for new military adventures in South Viet Nam. In North Viet Nam they are recklessly "escalating" their war of destruction. Their most recent savage bombing of Hanoi only pointed to their madness. Anyhow, they cannot avoid heavier defeats, however obstinate, reckless, barbarous and crafty they may be.

The enemy's position is a losing one. The Vietnamese people's position is a winning one. Turning to account the successes recorded during the recent Summer-Autumn period, the South Viet Nam people will certainly march forward more vigorously to promote their initiative, attack the enemy unrelentingly on all battlefronts and in all fields, wiping out many American, puppet and satellite troops as possible and stepping up the whole struggle in South Viet Nam.

Highly elated at these victories the people and armed forces in North Viet Nam will live up to their pledge to their fellow countrymen and exert all their efforts to give the greatest assistance possible to South Viet Nam.

South Viet Nam P.L.A.F. fighters

# BRILLIANT SUCCESSES OF SOUTH VIET NAM PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMED FORCES DURING THE FIVE-MONTH 1967 SUMMER-AUTUMN CAMPAIGN 143,000 Enemies (Including 68,900 G.I.s and Satellite Troops) Put out of Action

## SOUTH VIETNAM PEOPLE'S BIG VICTORIES IN THEIR INITIATIVE AND RELENTLESS OFFENSIVE

IN the wake of the recent victorious Winter-Spring, Summer-Autumn this year witnessed other resounding victories of heroic South Viet Nam, which have elicited a rousing acclamation from our people in the whole country.

ON the military plane, this year's Summer-Autumn brought to bolder relief the critical situation of the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen now in a blind alley. The most striking feature of this period was that the enemy's passivity became all the more apparent. Since the failure of Junction City Operation the American aggressors had not been able to mount a single large-scale raid. Their operations were of small size and of a defensive nature only. Despite their efforts they could not ward off the hammer blows of the South Vietnamese people and armed forces who, impelled forward by their previous victories, rushed on irresistibly. Whether it was in Quang Tri-Thua Thien or in the Mekong Delta, blows continued to rain on them, and the stiffer their resistance the harder the blows. Not only all their operations were foiled but also commanding posts and nerve organs were repeatedly attacked and sustained heavy losses.

Their mobile forces were dangerously dispersed and many of their units were badly battered. General W. Westmoreland and his staff had to dispatch whole divisions and brigades, particularly to the 1st Tactical Zone, thus making a mess of their own strategic deployment on the battlefield.

The morale of American, satellite and puppet troops was on a steady decline. Monthly desertion rate in the puppet army was put at tens of thousands. The puppet army could no longer cope with the tasks assigned to it by the U.S. As for the American army, war weariness, fear and anti-war acts were on the increase.

The U.S.-puppet "pacification" prong was broken again and again, despite the commitment of nearly 80 puppet main force battalions and a great number of American and satellite units. Many "pacification" groups or teams were wiped out. The enemy were unable to establish their rule in "pacification" areas. In other areas, it continued to fall to pieces.

Meanwhile, the liberated areas were firmly maintained and steadily broadened.

THE successes of the South Viet Nam people and armed forces in this year's Summer-Autumn by far outstripped those of the corresponding period last year. They were much more important than those recorded in Winter 1965-Spring 1966 and, in certain respects, outshone those of the Winter 1966-Spring 1967 period. The total enemy casualties in this year's five-month Summer-Autumn period topped that of the Winter 1965-Spring 1966 by over 25 per cent, or some 20,000 men. American and satellite casualties registered a sharp increase of over 60 per cent, or 25,000 men more. American casualty figure alone and the amount of war materials destroyed almost equalled that of the Winter 1966-Spring 1967, while the number of attacks on the enemy's rear area and that on the enemy's bases and headquarters in urban areas respectively doubled and trebled.

This year's Summer-Autumn marked an outstanding advance of the South Vietnamese people and armed forces in their struggle. This found expression in the powerful promotion of their initiative and relentless offensive on all battlefields, in the quick growth of the three kinds of people's armed forces, and lastly in the flexible, creative, diversified and effective application of various methods of fighting of people's war. The main forces, the regional army and the guerrilla forces fought very well and co-ordinated their actions on each battlefield and on different battlefields. This accounted for the serious losses they inflicted on the enemy.

(Continued page 7)

DURING the five-month Summer-Autumn campaign ended September 1967, the heroic South Viet Nam People's Liberation Armed Forces (P.L.A.F.) and people kept the initiative in attacking and counter-attacking the U.S. and puppet forces on all battlefields, and won many glorious victories. *Giai Phong* Press Agency reported.

Citing still incomplete figures, *Giai Phong* Press Agency said that during the period under review, the P.L.A.F. wiped out more than 143,000 enemies including 63,400 G.I.s and 5,500 satellite troops.

The number of enemy units wiped out comprised 14 infantry battalions including 7 U.S., 2 engineering battalions including one U.S., 6 motorized units including 2 U.S. battalions, 145 companies and 271 platoons including 38 U.S. companies, 76 U.S. platoons and 2 satellite companies, and 38

"pacification" groups.

The P.L.A.F. shot down more than 1,400 aircraft, destroyed or damaged 3,100 military vehicles including 1,200 tanks and armoured cars and 24 military engines and 39 carriages, sank or heavily damaged 107 ships and motor-boats.

They powerfully attacked whole networks of enemy positions, military bases, and important communication lines.

They razed to the ground nearly 180 positions, 50 military sectors and sub-sectors in provincial capitals, townships and district towns, blew up nearly 120 bridges, and set ablaze 52 petrol storages containing altogether 23 million litres. They also seized thousands of firearms and destroyed hundreds of heavy guns.

The number of enemy troops wiped out in this Summer-Autumn campaign is bigger than that of the

seven-month Winter 1965-Spring 1966 campaign and more than twice compared with the Summer-Autumn campaign of 1966. The number of G.I.s wiped out nearly equalled that in the Winter 1966-Spring 1967 offensive. The quantity of war means destroyed in this period nearly equalled that destroyed in the last Winter-Spring period.

The P.L.A.F. launched 35 attacks on 18 enemy airbases, destroying 810 aircraft and wiping out nearly 5,700 enemy troops including 5,174 G.I.s.

These brilliant victories proved that the South Viet Nam armed forces and people firmly held the initiative on the battlefield, launched powerful attacks on the enemy outside his positions and made deep thrusts into his rear areas, and attacked both the communication lines and his bases.

All the 3 kinds of people's armed forces have made remarkable progress in all fields.



Aircraft hunters of the Tay Ninh regional armed forces

## PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMED FORCES WIN REPEATED VICTORIES

THU DAU MOT:

3 U.S. Battalions and 4 Puppet Companies Wiped Out at Loc Ninh (Oct. 29 and 30)

SAIGON:

"Independence Palace" Founded during a Reception to Fete Thieu and Ky's "Inauguration" (Oct. 31)

MEKONG DELTA:

26 Posts, District Towns, Provincial Capitals and Airfields Attacked in 36 Hours

(PAGE 7)